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# LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued by the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 14 August 1993 following the renewal by the Security Council of the sanctions imposed under resolution 748 (1992).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Ahmed ELHOUDERI
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued by the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 14 August 1993

The General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation expresses its strong indignation that the sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab people are to be maintained despite the divergence of views that was apparent in the consultations among the members of the Security Council, thereby confirming that the measures and initiatives taken by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in implementation of Security Council resolution 731 (1992) had met with a positive response and were welcomed within the Council itself. This conflicts with the rigid positions being maintained by the three Western States in disregard of all the concrete measures taken by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the implementation of resolution 731 (1992).

Despite the continued suffering of the Libyan Arab people under the burden of the sanctions imposed on it by the unjust application of resolution 748 (1992), the Great Jamahiriya has spared no effort and neglected no available means in order to affirm its concern to see justice done and to comply with international law, in a framework of constructive dialogue and mutual understanding that eschews the language of intimidation, in the expectation that this would lead to the lifting of the sanctions.

Despite the foregoing, the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation once again affirms as follows:

1. The Great Jamahiriya has complied with resolution 731 (1992) in all its aspects, and it has informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations of all the measures it has taken in implementation of that resolution. It has cooperated with the Secretary-General and his envoys in a positive manner out of respect for international legitimacy and in its concern for a peaceful solution to the crisis that respects the interests of all parties. This refutes the statement made in the declaration of the three Western States accusing the Jamahiriya of being in defiance of the Security Council.

2. The Jamahiriya has acceded to the request for cooperation with the United Kingdom with regard to the organizations that it accuses of terrorism, and the United Kingdom has given official expression to its satisfaction with that cooperation.

3. The Jamahiriya has expressed its complete readiness to cooperate with French justice, and talks are still in progress with the French authorities with a view to having the magistrate entrusted with the dossier come to the Great Jamahiriya to complete his inquiries. It is hoped that this will take place as soon as possible.

4. The Great Jamahiriya acknowledges that it is necessary for the two suspects to be brought to trial, and it is prepared to discuss the venue where the trial must be held if it is to be just and fair.

5. The Jamahiriya affirms that the reversion of the three Western States to the language of intimidation and blackmail, as in their latest declaration, does not advance the goal that the United Nations is seeking to achieve, namely the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, respect for international norms and conventions and regard for the sovereignty of States. The first step towards that goal is the adoption of a language of serious dialogue between the parties to the dispute with a view to reaching peaceful solutions that are satisfactory to all parties, and it is this that has been urged by all the regional and international organizations, in particular the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. Moreover, the current approach does not serve the interests of the families of the victims. The Jamahiriya therefore declares before world public opinion that it is fully prepared to sit down at the negotiating table with the parties concerned and the Security Council in order to arrive at a peaceful solution to the crisis that will serve the interests of all parties.

Given the rejection by the three Western States of all the measures it has taken to meet the demands made upon it by resolution 731 (1992), and given its refusal to accept that its people should continue to suffer under the sanctions for a long time to come, the Great Jamahiriya can only request the Secretary-General and the Security Council to establish a mechanism for reaching a mutual understanding of what it is that resolution 731 (1992) requires and of what measures the Jamahiriya has taken to meet those requirements. The Council may then be persuaded that the Great Jamahiriya has discharged all of its obligations, and the maintenance of the sanctions against its people would be shown to be unjust and aberrant and find none to support it among the members of the Security Council or in the international community as a whole.

It is indeed astonishing that in their declaration the three Western States should have set a time-limit of a matter of weeks for the resolution of a problem of such proportions and one that, as they acknowledge, required long years of investigation and research in order to uncover no more than a suspicion.

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